

♥ NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION ♦ Report of the Hon. Masterpoints Secretary 2024/25

Bridge is just about back to normal on a face to face basis in the majority of clubs, though many report diminished numbers. Some clubs continue to have mainly or totally on-line competitions. Most competitions in the NIBU were cancelled this season due to poor entries, though the Cups and Leagues were reasonably successful, and the two Major events took place.

Many thanks to Alan Hill, Sandie Millership, Jim McGilly and others for kindly getting results posted and delivered to me so that the Masterpoints could be updated in timely fashion.

The same sentiments apply in equal measure to all the club secretaries and scorers who helped in getting club Masterpoints uploaded onto the system during the year.

There has sadly been a further decline in NIBU club membership, not helped by the disaffiliation by a couple of clubs.

The following clubs or groups returned Masterpoints :-

Causeway Coast Portadown Derryvolgie Lisburn City Windsor Bann Banbridge St Colmcille's Kelvin/Malone Newcastle Spa Warrenpoint St Michaels Devenish Bangor City of Derry Limavady Breffni/Iveagh Portstewart St Joseph's Downshire Armagh Maghera Devenish Diane Greenwood Dromore St Michaels Mourne Teconnaught Carrickfergus

The Union has shrunk in number less than envisaged, we losing approximately 30 members during the year, membership now totalling 1249. This compares to 1283, last season, and is a gratifying number considering the age profile of the NIBU membership, and the loss of two clubs. Matters are complicated by some EBU/CBAI members being registered here as well as in their "home" Union, and by the presence of a number of non-paying juniors, some of whom may no longer be playing.

The Grade breakdown of members is:-

Expert 66	Senior 90	Intermediate A 240	Intermediate B 853
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The number of players in each Rank is :-

Premier Grand Master	4	Grand Master	7	Premier Life Master	10
Life Master	18	Premier National Master	9	National Master	11
Senior Provincial Master	4	Junior Provincial Master	19	Tournament Master	17
Master	320	County Master	150	Local Master	205
Club Master	194	Novice	279		

Players of the year

Intermediate B	Intermediate A	Senior
1 st Eileen McGuigan	1 st John Baker	1 st Rex Anderson
2 nd Jed Langosz	2 nd Valerie Young	2 nd Wayne Somerville

Billy Kelso Trophy - not awarded

Congratulations to all of the above



NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

Promotions & Regradings

Congratulations to all the below, but especially to our two new Experts, Tom Young and Fergal O'Shea

RE-GRADINGS EFFECTIVE FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER 2025

INTERMEDIATE B to INTERMEDIATE A

3256 E Ervin 3638 A Bradley 3833 MM Chen 4735 E McElroy 4759 S Jeffries 4993 G Daly
5293 M McGarvey 5440 P Currie 5454 P Braden

INTERMEDIATE A to SENIOR

2318 E Devlin 2487 H Booth 2883 V Young 4627 J Baker 5265 C Stewart

SENIOR to EXPERT

2667 T Young 5185 F O'Shea

All the above re-gradings are due for ratification by the Management Committee towards the end of August 2025 and any appeals must be made in writing to the Masterpoints Secretary and received before 18th August 2025. An e-mailed appeal is acceptable.

Ian Hamilton

Hon Masterpoints Secretary

ian@ishamilton.co.uk

10th June 2025

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

PROMOTIONS LIST JUNE 2025

1	Premier National Master		1278	V	Linter
2667	T Young		1790	S	Gillespie
1	2* Senior Provincial Master		3475	C	Jones
1044	A Hassan		4461	E	Woods
1	3* Junior Provincial Master		4738	M	McNamee
3831	S Barr		5228	J	Forsythe
1	2* Tournament Master		6	1* Master	
2850	D Curran		2038	M	Mitchell
1	Tournament Master		2190	P	McDowell
3618	Y Banks		2795	M	McCann
5	6* Master		3462	E	Coleman
2557	J Montgomery		3982	V	Von Hof
2794	J Hughes		4631	C	Jeffries
2854	G Robot		10	Advanced Master	
3423	M Sherrard		2153	M	Noad
3635	H Tranmer		3256	E	Ervin
5	5* Master		3638	A	Bradley
1061	G Hegarty		3833	M	Chen
2318	E Devlin		4735	E	McElroy
2487	H Booth		4759	S	Jeffries
2883	V Young		4993	G	Daly
5265	C Stewart		5293	M	McGarvey
5	4* Master		5440	P	Currie
2911	M Stevenson		5454	P	Braden
3904	M McClelland		11	Master	
4175	P Montgomery		1369	J	Flynn
4311	W McCormick		2340	D	Davey
4627	J Baker		2756	D	Hutchieson
2	3* Master		3113	A	Ellis
1629	DG Roberts		3645	M	McLaughlin
3233	UM Gordon		4963	D	Moore
6	2* Master		5267	H	McCambridge

5274	M	Kearney	31	Local Master
5424	K	Powrie	1786	L Forsythe
5448	M	Johnston	2219	S Heneghan
5462	R	MacNamara	2948	E Scott
31	County Master		3010	P Burrows
1197	N	Martin	3487	M Blair
1363	C	Harte	4606	K Reihill
1366	A	Harte	4682	M Breen
1555	V	Brann	4896	D Blair
2130	A	Carolan	4970	E Crabbe
2394	R	Sleator	5196	M Henry
2919	R	Cromie	5353	G Glover
3092	B	McGowan	5395	L Thomason
3147	D	Gilroy	5426	N Lowry
3183	D	Gilroy	5427	C Harper
3704	A	McNiff	5438	A Russell
4008	R	McKinley	5510	H Taggart
4568	S	Cunningham	5511	G Taggart
4696	C	Ingoldby	5516	M McGrath
4881	M	McDonnell	5540	R Whittley
5005	K	Cullen	5548	H MacAuley
5006	M	Morris	5552	E Flaherty
5113	C	Beagon	5675	D Quinn
5194	P	Brown	5687	D Hamilton
5214	P	Higgins	5705	M Grant
5252	C	Mulholland	5713	A Lavery
5279	B	Miller	5720	I Norris
5390	A	Reihill	5723	P Suckling
5412	H	Hanna	5732	J Agnew
5425	K	Bialowas	5765	P Redman
5430	R	Magee	5789	W Hutchinson
5455	J	Bartley	5881	D Harper
5468	J	O'Neill	40	Club Master
5513	N	Cunningham	1873	P Lavery
5587	D	Hamilton	2418	A Graham
5683	E	McGuigan	2528	B Connolly

3210	R	Brew	5964	A	Beaurivage
3935	B	Fitzsimmons			
3949	P	O'Hare			
4535	M	Callan			
4600	S	Trewin			
4781	R	Barr			
4995	L	Crawford			
5271	L	Campbell			
5443	H	Watson			
5481	W	Borland			
5553	D	Thompson			
5558	K	Barr			
5564	C	Collins			
5634	R	Brown			
5637	MT	Ivory			
5650	A	Montague			
5734	M	Cameron			
5739	U	Brown			
5766	A	Stevens			
5797	S	Kayes			
5807	K	Cathcart			
5809	M	Fisher			
5815	A	Hunter			
5841	P	Gibson			
5842	M	Gibson			
5851	K	Sanderson			
5856	M	Keeley			
5858	B	Robinson			
5871	L	Ferris			
5877	D	Lombardini			
5878	K	Barrett			
5896	M	Duffy			
5901	J	McCambridge			
5920	S	O'Hara			
5940	A	Harte			
5963	J	Barrett			